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PAGE 01 OF 02 251059Z
ACTION INR-10

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Brazil

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 HA-06 PM-09 SP-02 /044 W
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P 251059Z JUN 81
FM JCS WASHINGTON DC
INFO CSA WASHINGTON DC
CSAF WASHINGTON DC
CIA WASHINGTON DC
SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
CMC CC WASHINGTON DC
DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD
P 241936Z JUN 81
FM [REDACTED]
TO DIA WASHINGTON DC
INFO [REDACTED]
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN//SCJ2-1AD//
DIA WASHINGTON DC//DB-3E1/

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DIA FOR IR BRANCH

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] /IMPACT OF GENERAL
MILTON'S DEATH AND FORTHCOMING PROMOTIONS IN HIGH
COMMAND (U) /

THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTEL

1. (U) CTRY: BRAZIL (BR)
FOIA(b) (3) - 10 USC 424 - DIA, NRO and NSA

2. (U) [REDACTED]

3. (U) TITLE: IMPACT OF GENERAL MILTON'S DEATH AND
FORTHCOMING PROMOTIONS IN HIGH COMMAND.

4. (U) DATE OF INFO: 810621

5. (U) ORIG: SEE FM LINE

6. (U) REQ REFS: [REDACTED]

7. (U) SOURCE: [REDACTED]

8. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ SUMMARY: GENERAL (MILTON) TAVARES DE SOUZA,
COMMANDER OF THE SECOND ARMY, DIED OF A CORONARY
ARREST ON 21 JUNE. HE HAS BEEN REPLACED BY MG HENRIQUE
(BECKMANN) FILHO, SECOND DIVISION COMMANDER, UNTIL THE
JULY PROMOTION CYCLE ESTABLISHES THE NEW FOUR STAR
POSITIONS. THESE PROMOTIONS TO FILL FIVE VACANCIES
WILL CAUSE A MAJOR RESTRUCTURE IN THE ARMY HIGH
COMMAND, BUT ARE UNLIKELY TO PROVIDE THE PRESIDENT AN
OPPORTUNITY TO SIGNIFICANTLY INFLUENCE ASSIGNMENTS
TO SUPPORT HIS POLICIES.

9A. (U) DETAILS: NONE

9B. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ ORIG CMTS:

1. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ THE PASSING OF GEN MILTON REMOVES
ONE OF THE MOST VOCAL AND ACTIVE HARDLINERS FROM
THE SCENE; HOWEVER, HIS BRAND OF INFLUENCE IS LIKELY
TO BE PERPETUATED IN 2D ARMY SO LONG AS THE ETCHEGOYEN
BROTHERS--BG LEO GUEDES (ETCHEGOYEN)

(2D ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF) AND COL CYRO GUEDES (ETCHEGOYEN)
(2D ARMY G2)--REMAIN ASSIGNED. MG HENRIQUE (BECKMANN)
FILHO, COMMANDER OF THE 2D DIVISION IN SAO
PAULO, HAS ASSUMED (INTERIM) COMMAND OF 2D ARMY. MG BECKMANN
IS THE SENIOR 3-STAR IN BRAZARMY AND APPEARS CERTAIN TO BE
PROMOTED TO 4-STAR IN JULY 81. HE IS GENERALLY
CREDITED WITH BEING MORE MODERATE THAN GEN MILTON
AND MORE FAVORABLY INCLINED TOWARD THE U.S., HOWEVER,
THIS BELIES THE FACT THAT OFFICERS OF HIS SENIORITY
ARE OF THE SAME ILK AND TEND TO BEHAVE IN A
SIMILAR MANNER WHEN PLACED IN POSITIONS OF HIGH
RESPONSIBILITY. NEVERTHELESS, NO WOULD EXPECT TO SEE
2D ARMY DISPLAY GREATER RESTRAINT AND CAUTION IN THE
CONDUCT OF ACTIVITIES AGAINST THE LEFT, AND PERHAPS,
THOUGH NOT AT ALL CERTAIN, A DEGREE OF COOPERATION AND
SUPPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT'S ABERTURA.

2. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ GEN MILTON'S DEATH OPENS A FIFTH VACANCY
FOR PROMOTION TO 4-STAR RANK IN JULY 81. WHILE IT
IS POPULAR TO BELIEVE THIS WILL PROVIDE PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO
AN OPPORTUNITY TO INFLUENCE THE PROMOTION AND ASSIGNMENT
OF OFFICERS LOYAL TO HIM AND THE "ABERTURA" TO KEY
POSITIONS, SUCH IS NOT RPT NOT THE CASE. FIGUEIREDO IS
IN FACT LIMITED IN THE DEGREE TO WHICH HE CAN
INFLUENCE EITHER THE PROMOTION OF ASSIGNMENT OF GENERAL
OFFICERS IN THE HIGH COMMAND BECAUSE OF HIS DEPENDENCE
ON ARMY SUPPORT. HE CANNOT DIRECTLY CONFRONT/OPOSE ARMY
MINISTER GENERAL WALTER PIRES, AND THE HIGH COMMAND
WITHOUT RISKING LOSS OF HIS PRIMARY BASE OF POLITICAL
SUPPORT. AS A RESULT, WE BELIEVE THE NEXT 4-STAR
PROMOTIONS WILL BE CONSISTENT WITH THE CURRENT 3-STAR
ORDER OF RANK (THREE OFFICERS CERTAIN OF NON-PROMOTION
HAVE ALREADY RETIRED): GENERALS BECKMANN, ENIO, SERGIO,
CHALOUB AND HELLO MATTOS. IF THERE ARE IN FACT FIVE
VACANCIES FOR PROMOTION AND ONE OF THE FORENAMED IS
PASSED OVER, GEN EUCLYDES, THE PRESIDENT'S BROTHER, WOULD
BE PROMOTED--WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, HE WILL HAVE TO
WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT PROMOTION CYCLE IN NOVEMBER 81.

3. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ THERE APPEARS TO BE SOME CREDENCE
IN A RUMOR THAT ARMY MINISTER WALTER PIRES HAS REQUESTED
TO RETIRE IN JULY 81. IF THIS OCCURS, WE BELIEVE HE
WILL TRY TO COMPLETE THE ASSIGNMENT OF THE NEWLY
PROMOTED 4-STAR OFFICERS BEFORE HE LEAVES OFFICE.
THE PRESIDENT MAY BE ABLE TO EXERT SOME INFLUENCE UNDER
THESE CONDITIONS, BUT IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT HE COULD
SUCCESSFULLY PUSH CHANGES THAT GREATLY DIFFERED FROM
GEN PIRES' LINEUP IN THE HIGH COMMAND. WHEN THE DUST
SETTLES, WE WOULD EXPECT SOME REASSIGNMENTS BETWEEN
THE ARMY DEPARTMENTS AND THE FIELD ARMIES, THE REASSIGN-
MENT OF SOME SUBORDINATE HARDLINERS AT THE 2 AND
3-STAR LEVELS TO LESS INFLUENTIAL POSITIONS, AND
AN OVERALL CHAIN OF COMMAND THAT LARGELY REFLECTS GEN
PIRES' IMAGE. THIS SHOULD PROVE TRUE WHETHER OR
NOT GEN PIRES RETIRES IN JULY.

10. (U) PROJ NO: NONE

11. (U) COLL MGMT CODES: NONE

12. (U) SPEC INST: NONE; DIRC: NO

13. (U) PREP BY: [REDACTED]

14. (U) APP BY: [REDACTED]

15. (U) REQ EVAL: NO

16. (U) NO ENCLOSURES

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05-07-2015

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PAGE 02 OF 02 251059Z

17. (U) DIST BY ORIG: NONE

DECL: 31 DEC 1981

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